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COUNTRY REPORTED ON ID NUMBER

JAPAN

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REPORT NUMBER

FROM

1-238-56

Army Japan

PREPARED BY

Col. W.W. BAILEY

SOURCE

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DATE OF REPORT

6 July 56

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REFERENCES

R-120-56 (See below)

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DATE OF INFO.

C-3 2 July 56

SUMMARY

Add'l references: Joint Weeks 25, 26, 27; Cables JAP-C-14, JAP-C-15

Press reports recently have carried several articles concerning the proposal to place Takushiro HATTORI in the NDC. A sample of those articles are inclosed.

A confidential source has informed RO that Masamoto TSUJI is one of the strong advocates of the proposal, because of a long time association with HATTORI, and that TSUJI has used his influence with the Prime Minister to secure the appointment. Informant further reported that the HATTORI appointment had been approved but due to strong opposition (particularly from Di DirGen FILADA and the press), the appointment was up for reconsideration and was in the balance. The JDA feeling, he said, is that the Defense Agency should be the highest authority for Defense Planning, not the NDC; and that public opinion and press opposition is strong because of fear of revival of the militarists. Some names are furnished of HATTORI followers in the JDA.

Two other sources reported to RO the belief that HATTORI is being pushed for the appointment by American support from some direction, which info is uncorroborated.

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BY AUTHORITY *W. W. Bailey* C-1, G-3, Army Attaché, 6 July 56 LIBRARY SUBJECT: Asia Com.

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of armed neutrality, i.e., one which would permit the denial of American influence in Japan and the development of Japan as a "third force" in the Far East. HATTORI's capabilities cannot be denied but it is because of his capabilities that he will be able to extend the position of the ex-military group perhaps in a fashion not in the best interest of the United States.

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1 Incl: 7 press items:

(1) Mainichi, 25 June (Trans)
(2) Standard, 26 June (Trans)
(3) Japan Times, 1 July
(4) Asahi, 2 July (Trans)
(5) Asahi, 2 July (English)
(6) Mainichi, 2 July (Trans)
(7) Japan Times, 4 July

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